

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Applicant re-submits a new RCE in place of the RCE that was filed on February 04, 2010. The new RCE now ticks box “b” to enclose this reply. No fees have been paid with this RCE, as the fee of \$810 was paid with the RCE filed on the 4th of February. A one month extension fee is enclosed.

In response to the Examiner’s Advisory Action of January 25, 2010 with respect to the present RCE application, the Applicant respectfully submits the accompanying request for continued examination and the following Remarks.

Regarding 11

It is respectfully submitted that the subject matter of pending claim 1, and claims 3-10, is not disclosed or suggested by Hameau either taken alone or in view of Pires because, for at least the following reasons.

The Examiner retains the assertion that the “secret master key” described at paragraph 58 of Hameau is “not stated to be stored in nonvolatile memory”. The Applicant again respectfully disagrees based on the previously cited disclosure of Hameau and the following further disclosure of Hameau.

At paragraph 64 of Hameau it is disclosed that “The secret key K_M can be present in ROM, or “probe” written in EEPROM, as mentioned above.” This disclosure at paragraph 64 is between the Examiner’s cited disclosures at paragraphs 58 and 65, where paragraph 65 discloses that the “intermediate results are stored in registers or in RAM”.

From this disclosure at paragraph 64, one of ordinary skill in the art clearly understands that the “key K_M ” disclosed by Hameau (whether it be termed “key”, “secret master key”, “secret symmetric key”, “master key” or “secret key” which are clearly interchangeably used in Hameau), is stored in non-volatile memory.

Thus, it follows that “secret master key K_M ” disclosed at paragraph 58 of Hameau cannot be considered as the “secret information” of pending independent claim 1, contrary to the Examiner’s assertions, because pending independent claim 1 explicitly recites that “the secret information not being stored by the non-volatile memory”.

Further, Pires provides no disclosure which makes up for this difference between Hameau and the claimed invention.

It is respectfully submitted that all of the Examiner's rejections have been traversed. Accordingly, it is submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance and reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested.

Very respectfully,



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